

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the apparatus comprising:

inputting means for inputting the original data and original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original;

modification means for generating modification information to be able to modify the original data;

storing means for storing the modification information ~~regarding a modification when the original data is modified;~~ and

modification-assuring-information creating means for creating modification-assuring information for assuring that the modification information is true; and

outputting means for outputting the original data, the original-data assuring information, the modification information, and the modification-assuring-information.

2. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising determining means for determining whether the modification information is valid, wherein, when the determining means determines that the modification information is valid, the modification-assuring-information creating means creates the modification assuring information.

3. (cancelled).

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the modification assuring information and the original-data assuring information are digital signatures.

6. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the modification information includes information for identifying the original data; ~~information for identifying the modification processing means;~~ and information for identifying the modification process performed when the original data is modified.

7. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the modification information includes the original data and difference information between the original data and modified data with respect to the original data.

8. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the determination by the determining means is performed using pre-set access permission.

9. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the determination by the determining means is performed using a public key of the author of the original data.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the apparatus comprising:

inputting means for inputting the original data, original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original, modification information to be able to modify the original data, and modification-assuring-information for assuring that the modification information is true;

original-data verifying means for verifying, by the original-data assuring information, that the original data is assured as being an original;~~and~~

modification-information verifying means for verifying, by the modification-assuring information, that modification information regarding a modification of the original data is assured as being true; ~~and~~

modifying means for modifying the original data in accordance with the modification information when it is verified that the original data is assured as being an original and the modification information is assured as being true.

13. (cancelled)

14. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the original-data verifying means verifies a digital signature for the original data and the modification-information verifying means verifies a digital signature for the modification information.

15. (currently amended) A server that is connected with the information processing apparatus according to claim ~~13~~ over a network, wherein the server receives and manages the original data, the original-data assuring information, the modification information, and the modification assuring information from the information processing apparatus.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) An information processing method for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the method comprising:

inputting the original data and original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original;

generating modification information to be able to modify the original data;

~~a storing step of storing the modification information regarding a modification when the original data is modified; and~~

~~a modification-assuring information creating step of creating modification-assuring information for assuring that the modification information is true; and~~

outputting the original data, the original-data assuring information, the modification information, and the modification-assuring-information.

19. (original) The information processing method according to claim 18, further comprising a determining step of determining whether the modification information is valid, wherein, when the modification information is determined being valid in the determining step, the modification assuring information is created in the modification-assuring-information creating step.

20. (currently amended) An information processing method for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the information processing method comprising:

inputting the original data, original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original, modification information to be able to modify the original data, and modification-assuring-information for assuring that the modification information is true;

~~an original data verifying step of verifying, by the original-data assuring information,~~  
that the original data is assured as being an original;

~~a modification information verifying step of verifying, by the modification-assuring~~  
~~information,~~ that modification information regarding a modification of the original data is  
assured as being true; and

~~a modifying step of~~ modifying the original data in accordance with the modification  
information when it is verified that the original data is assured as being an original and the  
modification information is assured as being true.

21. (currently amended) The information processing method according to claim 20,  
wherein a digital signature for the original data is verified as part of verifying that the  
original data is assured as being an original~~in the original data verifying step~~ and a digital  
signature for the modification information is verified as part of verifying that modification  
information regarding a modification of the original data is assured as being true~~in the~~  
~~modification information verifying step.~~

22. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing A computer  
program that executes the information processing method according to claim 18.

23. (cancelled).